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Donald F. Haas

Date: December 9, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the accompanying application of)

ARIE VAN ZON, ROBERT MOENE,)
PHILLIP E. UNGER, PETER ARNOLDY,)
and ERIC J. M. DE BOER)

Serial No. 10/668,934)

Group Art Unit: 1764

Filed September 23, 2003)

Examiner: Thuan D. Dang

PROCESS FOR MAKING A LINEAR)
ALPHA-OLEFIN OLIGOMER USING A)
HEAT EXCHANGER)

December 9, 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE

Remarks

The following remarks are submitted in response to the office action of September 21, 2004. Claims 1 through 16 were originally presented for examination. Claims 8 through 16 were canceled in response to the Examiner's restriction requirement so only claims 1 through 7 remain for examination in the present application.

Claims 1 and 3-7 have been rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gibson et al. (WO 00/15646). The Examiner states that this reference discloses polymerization of ethylene in a reactor with a cobalt complex catalyst, a liquid phase, and a gas phase which is heat exchanged. The Examiner incorrectly states that the difference between Gibson and the present invention is only in the difference between oligomerization and polymerization. Claim 2 has been